

THE WALKING DEAD



IMAGE COMICS PRESENTS

THE WALKING DEAD™

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Gray Tones, Cover Colors

RUS WOOTON

Letterer

SEAN MACKIEWICZ

Editor

Previously:

Carl's missing, and Rick hasn't stopped searching for him. So when Jesus returns to Alexandria with the Saviors' whereabouts and news of Carl's possible involvement there, Rick rides out with his best people to show up at Negan's front door...

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I NEVER SHOULD HAVE SAID... I DIDN'T MEAN IT.

I'M SORRY.

IT'S OKAY, CARL. YOU'RE OKAY. THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERS.



I WAS STUPID. I WAS TRYING TO SHOW YOU I WAS GROWN UP, THAT I COULD DO STUFF...

...INSTEAD, I MESSED EVERYTHING UP.



I THOUGHT I'D NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN...



CAN I SAY SOMETHING?



I DON'T QUITE UNDERSTAND THE HOSTILITY IN THAT LOOK.

NO FUCKING SIR.

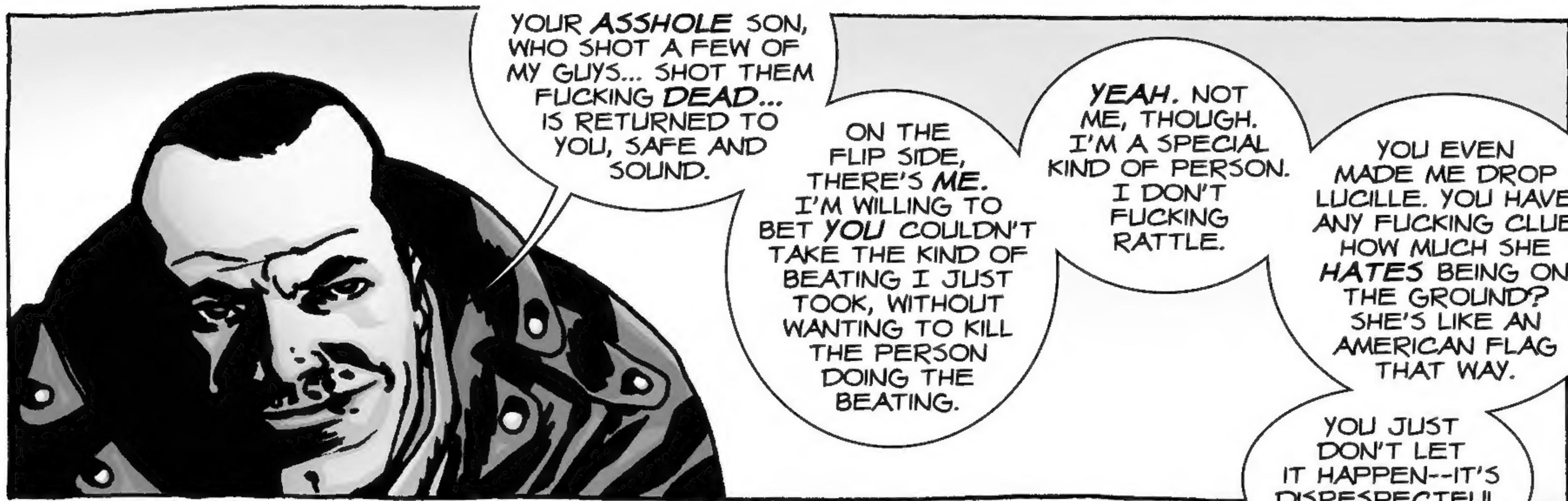


I GAVE YOU
YOUR SON BACK...
WITHOUT HARMING
SO MUCH AS ONE
EXPOSED BONE
ON HIS HEAD.

HEH.

I SAID
"EXPOSED BONE"
INSTEAD OF
"HAIR." THAT'S
NOT EVEN
GETTING A
CHUCKLE?

WELL, I
THOUGHT IT
WAS FUNNY,
YOU STOIC
PIECE OF
SHIT.



YOUR ASSHOLE SON,
WHO SHOT A FEW OF
MY GUYS... SHOT THEM
FUCKING DEAD...
IS RETURNED TO
YOU, SAFE AND
SOUND.

ON THE
FLIP SIDE,
THERE'S ME.
I'M WILLING TO
BET YOU COULDN'T
TAKE THE KIND OF
BEATING I JUST
TOOK, WITHOUT
WANTING TO KILL
THE PERSON
DOING THE
BEATING.

YEAH. NOT
ME, THOUGH.
I'M A SPECIAL
KIND OF PERSON.
I DON'T
FUCKING
RATTLE.

YOU EVEN
MADE ME DROP
LUCILLE. YOU HAVE
ANY FUCKING CLUE
HOW MUCH SHE
HATES BEING ON
THE GROUND?
SHE'S LIKE AN
AMERICAN FLAG
THAT WAY.

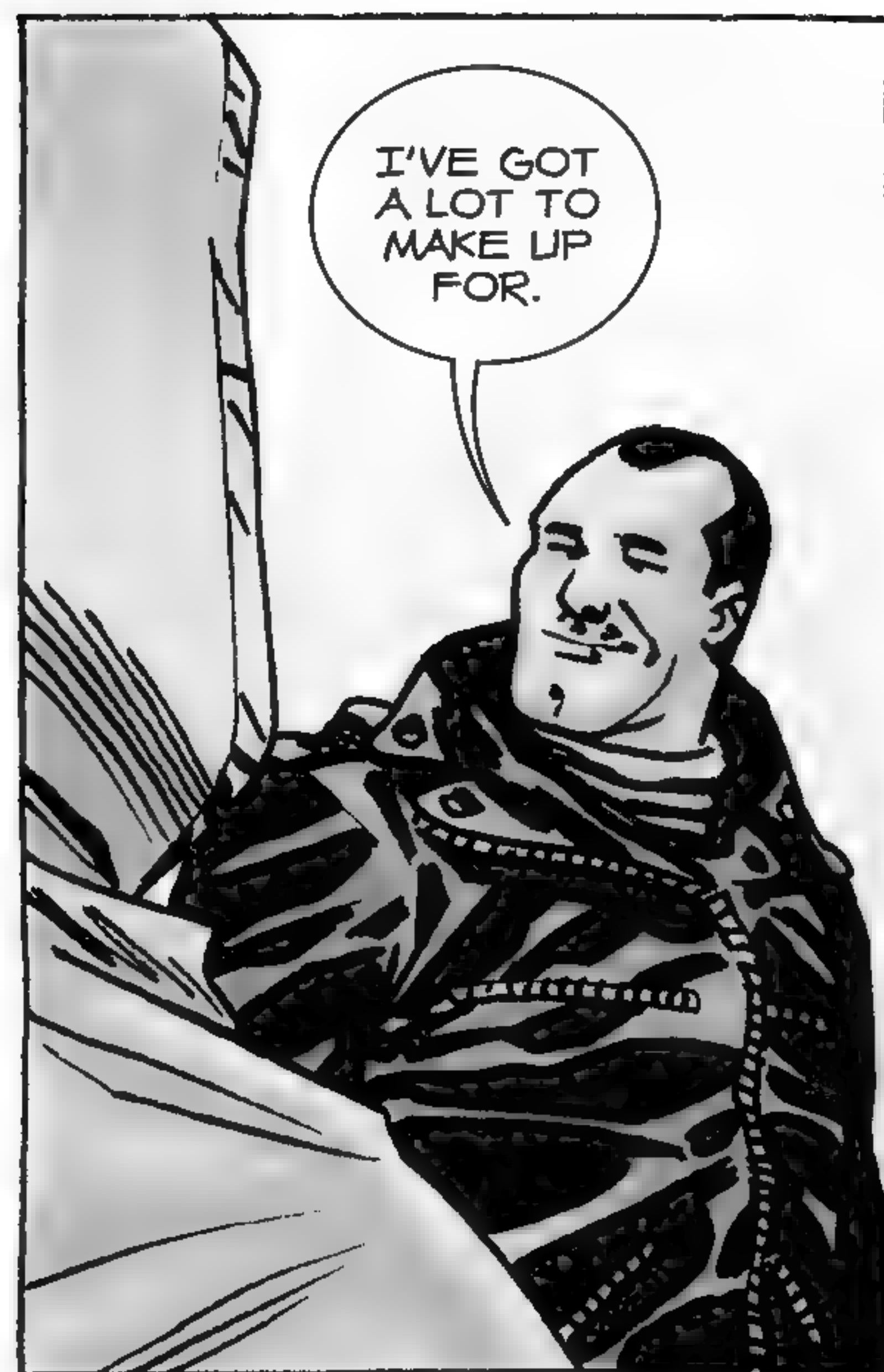
YOU JUST
DON'T LET
IT HAPPEN--IT'S
DISRESPECTFUL.



STILL--
HERE I AM,
FRIENDLY AS
A FUCKLESS
FUCK ON
FREE FUCK
DAY.



WHAT'S GOT
YOU BEING
SO NICE ALL OF
A SUDDEN?



I'VE GOT
A LOT TO
MAKE UP
FOR.

YOU THINK I'VE GOT ALL
THESE LITTLE COMMUNITIES
AT MY FEET BECAUSE I
ROAM THE COUNTRYSIDE
BASHING IN
ASIAN-AMERICAN
SKULLS?

THAT'S
NO FUCKING
WAY TO MAKE
FRIENDS.

EVERYONE TOES THE
LINE BECAUSE I
PROVIDE THEM A
SERVICE. I KEEP THEM
SAFE. WE'RE THE
SAVIORS, NOT THE KILL
YOUR FRIENDS SO
YOU DON'T FUCKING
LIKE US AT
ALLS.



ARE WE GOING TO KILL
YOUR FRIENDS IF YOU
DON'T COOPERATE?!

ABSOLUTELY. I'M
PRETTY SURE I'VE
ESTABLISHED
THAT.

AND NOW I'VE
ESTABLISHED THAT
IF YOU **DO** COOPERATE,
AS I BELIEVE YOU ARE,
WE WON'T DO BAD THINGS
TO YOUR SON, EVEN
THOUGH HE KILLED A
FEW OF MY MEN
BECAUSE HE DIDN'T
FUCKING KNOW ANY
BETTER.





YOU FOLLOWING THIS AT ALL?



I THINK SO.

YEAH.

THEN WHY YOU STILL GIVING ME THE STINK EYE?

AREN'T WE FUCKING FRIENDS?



I WILL COOPERATE. I'VE TOLD YOU THIS ALREADY.

BUT YOU DON'T STRIKE ME AS THE KIND OF GUY WHO'D WANT ME TO LIE AND SAY THAT WE'RE FRIENDS, OR BELIEVE ME IF I DID SAY THAT.

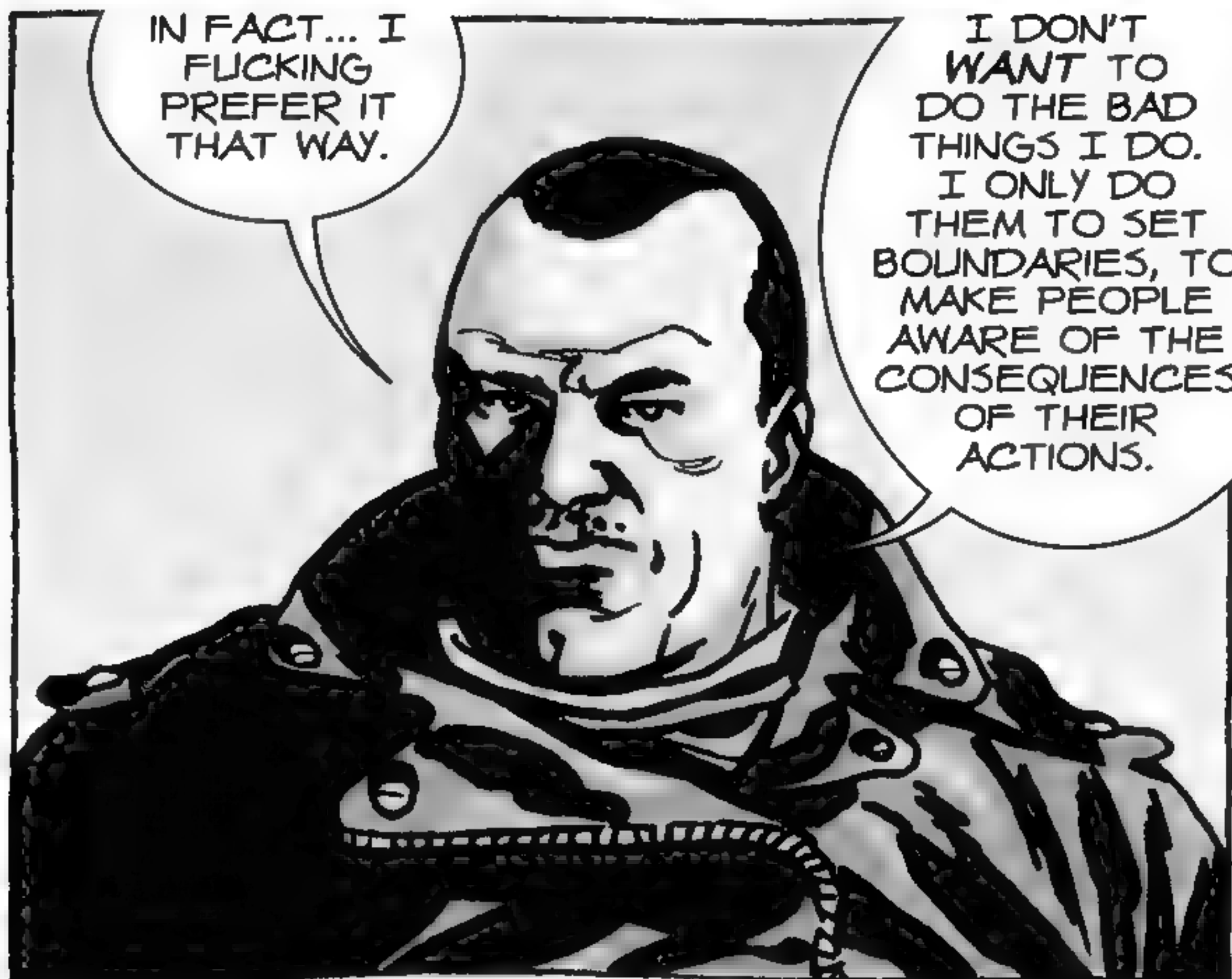


POINT TAKEN.



OKAY THEN. THIS FEELS LIKE PROGRESS TO ME. YEAH.

THIS WAS GOOD. I'M FEELING REALLY FUCKING GOOD HERE.





THAT ALL
COMPLETE
FLUCKING
BULLSHIT?



ACTUALLY,
NO... HE'S
GOT WEIRD
ASS RULES,
BUT IF YOU
FOLLOW THEM,
HE DOES SEEM
TO BE PRETTY
REASONABLE.
MOST OF
THE TIME.



STILL SOME TIME
BEFORE DARK. WE
SHOULD TAKE
A DIFFERENT
ROUTE BACK, SEE
IF WE CAN FIND
ANY SUPPLIES.

EVERYONE
UP FOR
THAT?





THIS PLACE IS UNBELIEVABLE!



WHAT IS IT?



IT HAS ABSOLUTELY **EVERYTHING** I NEED. THE OWNER MUST HAVE BEEN MAKING HIS OWN BULLETS ON THE SIDE.

THEY EVEN HAVE A **SWAGING PRESS** FOR CHRIST'S SAKE!



YEAH... WHATEVER THAT IS.



IT'S A PRESS THAT MAKES METAL FORMS BY PUSHING METAL THROUGH DIES--IT DOESN'T MATTER, IT MEANS WE WON'T HAVE TO DO A LOT OF CASTING AND WE CAN WORK WITH METAL AT ROOM TEMPERATURE.

IT'LL MAKE THINGS EASIER.



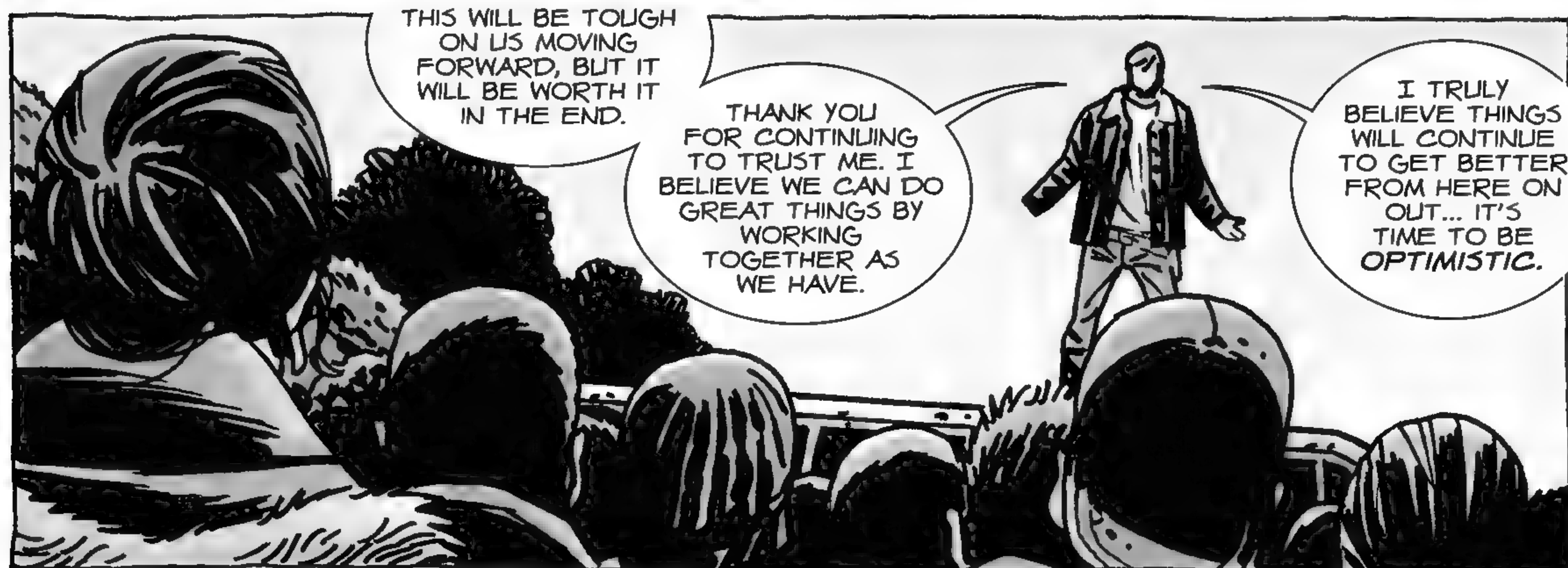
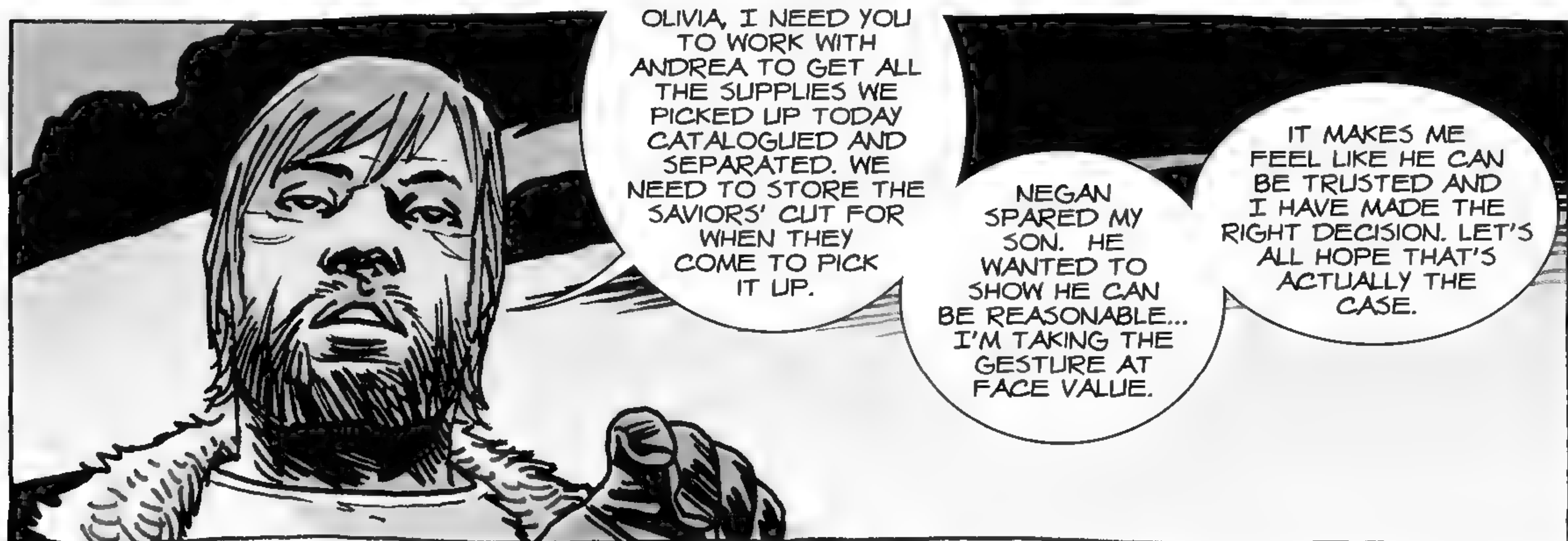
THAT LAST PART I UNDERSTOOD.



THIS GUY EVEN HAS A STOCKPILE OF PRIMER THAT'LL PROBABLY GET US THROUGH A COUPLE OF BATCHES.

TECHNICAL... SORRY.

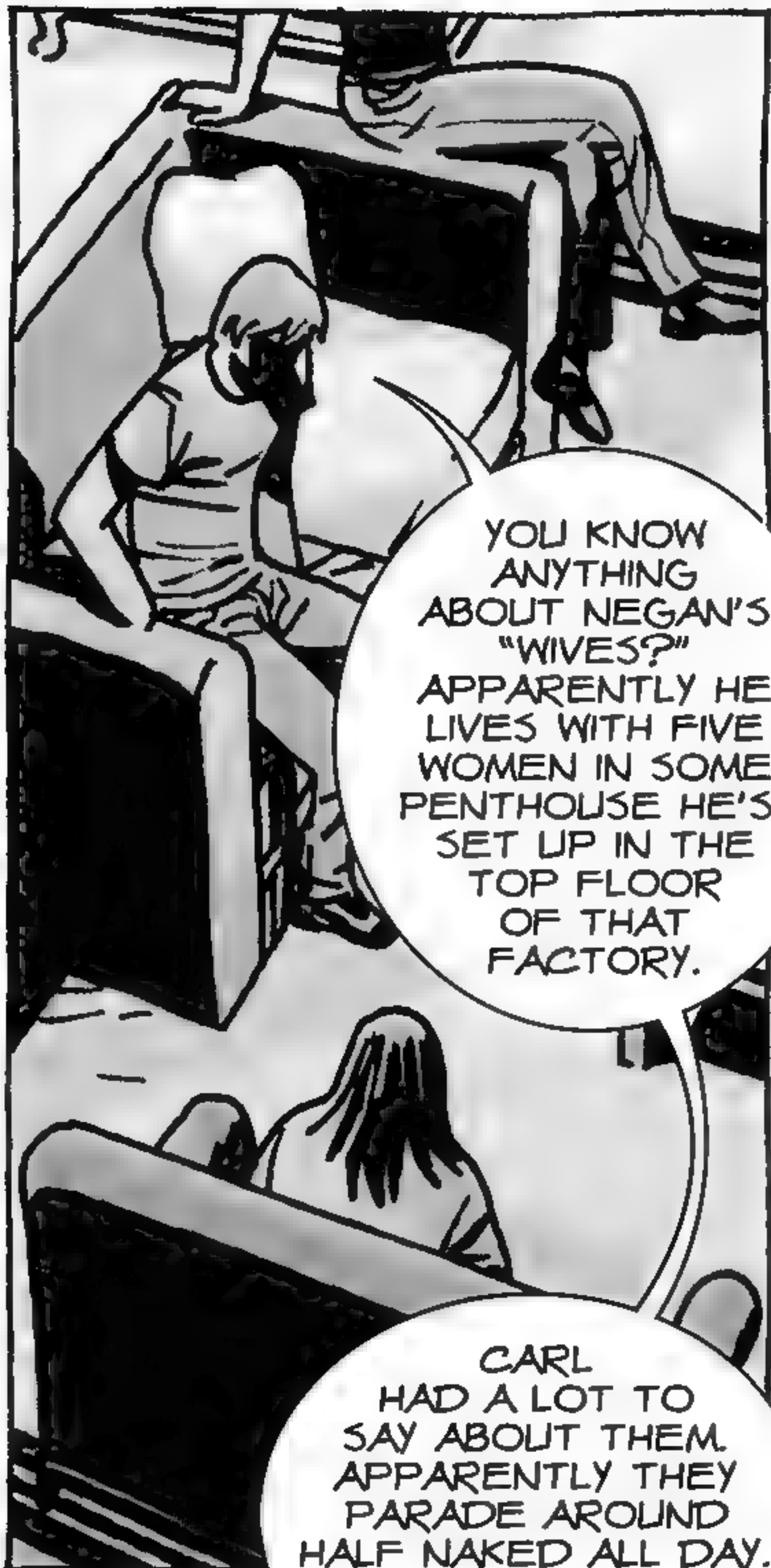














WELL, THAT'S THE INTERESTING PART. CARL SAYS HE SAW AT LEAST THIRTY PEOPLE WHILE HE WAS THERE. COULD BE MORE.

NOT MANY FIGHTERS.

THING IS, HE SAYS THEY'RE NORMAL PEOPLE, MEN, WOMEN... SOME KIDS. THEY'RE NOT ALL SOLDIERS. HE SAID MOST OF THEM ARE JUST REGULAR PEOPLE.



THAT MAKES SENSE. NEGAN HAS A FEW OUTPOSTS, LIKE HE'S ESTABLISHED SOME KIND OF PERIMETER, A SAFE ZONE-- THOUGH IT'S NOT EXACTLY SAFE.

HE KEEPS PEOPLE STATIONED AT THOSE. ONCE HE'S NO LONGER INTERESTED IN GETTING A PEEK INSIDE HERE-- HE'LL HAVE YOU START HAULING YOUR GOODS TO DROP POINTS, CLOSER TO THOSE OUTPOSTS.

SO HE'S GOT MORE SOLDIERS... WE JUST NEVER KNEW WHAT WAS BACK AT WHERE THEY LIVED--OR EVEN IF THEY LIVED IN A FIXED PLACE.

THIS IS ALL USEFUL.



CARL DIDN'T SEE ANY GUNS. NO STOCKPILES OF AMMUNITION.

SEEMS LIKE THEY'RE TAPPED.



WE'VE SUSPECTED THAT FOR A LONG TIME. WE DON'T REALLY RELY ON FIREARMS THAT MUCH AT THE HILLTOP EITHER. THAT STUFF IS SCARCE.

DON'T KNOW HOW YOU'VE STAYED SO WELL-STOCKED FOR SO LONG.



WE'VE BEEN LUCKY.



SO WE KNOW WHERE THE SAVIORS LIVE... AND THAT IT'S NOT FILLED TO THE BRIM WITH SOLDIERS...



LETTER HACKS

WRITE TO US AT:

WALKINGDEAD@SKYBOUND.COM

Ezekiel?! Have you ever in your life known an Ezekiel? I doubt it. There you go, getting all writerly. Who do we meet next, Persephone? Amadeus?

Is this how we're opening letters columns now? Are our letters not critical enough for you? The editor of the book needs to pile on even more?! Come on, Sean, I thought better of you.

Ezekiel is a cool name, damn it. And the end of the issue wouldn't have had much impact if Jesus said, "I think it's time I introduced you to Bill."

I hate you, Sean.

LETTERS!!!!

Robert and Co,

Woah Negan is so handsome I fell in love with him but I'm still a lesbian I think. Seriously though, I wasn't gonna send one of these in, but my inherit love of Negan got to me. Plus, also, I was bored.

And since I'm bored I'm gonna gently bully Robert. The shit you're coming up with is ridiculous. The bit about the baseball bat being eaten out like a lady? Do you ever just sit back and look at what you've written and just go 'wtf??????'.

Happy Holidays xoxoxo,
Suha Kakish

I'm pretty sure that's Robert's favorite page he's ever written.

It's ridiculous, I know. I honestly think Negan is the most fun character I've ever written. I'm actually a bit of a prude. I've been known to curse as much as Negan at times, and maybe in the same playful manner, but the sex stuff, the p word... I don't really use that stuff in my vocabulary. So getting to write a character that's so unlike me is a lot of fun, and he's just weird... "Nicer than a fuckless fuck on free fuck day"? I have no idea where that came from. It's really a game to try and write sentences with as many instances of the SAME curse word as possible.

Dear Mr. Kirkman,

WTF, so in one of issue 105's letter hacks there was a graphic novel mentioned. Since you insist on only publishing one book a month I decided I would try to find said novel and read while I wait for the next book to be released. Anyways so I run to my computer fire up the dial up "bebebebebrrrraaaakBRAHRINGRINGRINGBEEPBEEPBEEP," open my web browser and begin to type in Robert Kirkman graphic novel. Only I didn't get that far I got as far as Robert Kirkman and do you know what Google suggested I look at in order:

Robert Kirkman net worth
Robert Kirkman
Robert Kirkman Gay

I have a feeling this is due to you Googling your own net worth repeatedly and looking to Google as some kind of magic 8 ball to discover your sexuality. Don't worry though, I've started a campaign to try and fix your Google cred. I've began searching the following in an attempt to fix this little problem:

Robert Kirkman has sex with newborn donkey
Robert Kirkman illegal Alien

And of course: Robert Kirkman how about some fucking double issues, a rise of Negan or at least a fucking two hour fucking finale/mid season finale or a summer time episode, you slack ass.

Thank you,
Calvin Freid

We've dealt with the issue of Googling Robert before. It can lead to some pretty unpleasant results...

I am extremely proud of the fact that I'm popular enough with the bear loving subset of the gay community enough for their Google searches of me to appear so close to the top. Either that or former editor Sina Grace spends way too much time on the internet Googling me to alter the search results.

I thoroughly enjoyed issue 105. It took a while to get here but finally we get to learn more about Negan. After reading the issue's Letter Hacks, I feel the need to speak up as a long time fan of the comic. Sean's comment on a letter:

"Have you ever Googled Robert Kirkman Bear"?

Well, of course I had to look it up after that. Maybe I missed the reference in the past. I couldn't for the life of me remember ever hearing of this before. So I watched.

Then I came up with two conclusions.

1. If someone suggests that you do a Google search for Robert Kirkman Bear. DON'T

2. I forgot what the other conclusion was. Just don't Google search Robert Kirkman bear.

I've told myself to remember #2 going forward. If I forget in the future, I'm getting a Memento-style tattoo. "Don't Google search Robert Kirkman Bear" and "Forget you, Sean."

Jay Chudley
La Mesa, Ca

P.S. 105 was great. No Rick in this one huh?

Every day I strive to do my job to the best of my ability—consider this one in the WIN column.

Y'know... I've honestly never Googled that... at least I don't recall doing it. And I'm not trying to be cool, I vanity Google myself all the time to make sure that "sasquatching" thing has died down.

Hello,

Tripwires are part of any decent radical defense perimeter, aren't they? HA!

For the last 40 issues I've been wondering when our gang was going to run low on ammo and solve the problem by switching to 12 gauge shotguns, reloading the shells with dimes. At least the money would have value again, right? Immediate value I'll bet.

Also flamethrowers are easy...while all of those cars sitting around have fuel in them, that gasoline is continually going to spoil with age.... It will end up shellacy and useless in a vehicle's engine. However, it still makes a wonderful flame. More and more our heroes are encountering threats that are alive in the form of raiders, rival groups, etc. Flame cannot be underestimated in its efficacy against a living foe.

"Flame cannot be underestimated in its efficacy against a living foe." Fuuuuuck... I gotta use that some time.

Pikes for killing the dead. They could make them out of steel rakes, and other such metal ended common garden tools.

Just my completely unsolicited arm-chair-quarterback two cents.

Thanks for making this comic. It makes me feel like a kid again waiting for it to come out each month and reading it.

Roger in Iowa

As this book continues to progress, you will begin to see more and more makeshift weapons. The spears at the Hilltop were just the beginning. We're easing into it. The idea is that this is a gradual shift to an almost unrecognizable world. You shouldn't notice the change from issue to issue, but when you eventually compare issue 10 to issue 280... you'll see how much things have changed.

Hi. I was wondering, when writing for TWD do you have anything you do to get in the proper mood for TWD? Like, a song to listen to or something.

Stool Pigeon

Robert needs to run out of other things to do first. Then maybe he starts writing. (Or maybe he listens to "The Very Best of Hall & Oates"...which is about the most GANGSTER music on his laptop.)

Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds and The Dirty Three helps, music wise. I don't really have to get in the mood, or anything like that. Emails from Charlie let me know he's going to need script soon helps. I'm a mess.

Hi Robert Kirkman,

First off, I'm huge fan of both the comics and TV series, as well as the game and the novels. Great storytelling and Charlie Adlard brings the story to life so well through his art. THE WALKING DEAD is one best series, if not the best of the last decade. A couple of questions I would like to clear up and plot holes I would like to clear up.

First off, as disappointed as I am of the deaths of Abraham and Glenn who were my favorite characters, I like the direction you're taking the series with Negan and the Saviors as the new villains. I liked the Governor, but Negan blows him out of the water. As you said yourself, no one lives forever in the series, so it's a no brainer Negan will die eventually and I'm curious to see how Rick and co. will bring him down.

Second, I understood why you killed Glenn off, but why did you kill

Abraham? He still had a lot of potential in him. Did you kill him to pursue the storyline of Rick and co. giving into the Saviors because he was important as muscle to the group and they were screwed without him?

It was his time. His death provides a lot of cool story potential, same as always.

Third, what happened to Jeff Grimes? I know you like to leave dangling story bits, like what you did with Alexander Davidson, but I think it would be cool for Rick to somehow come across his brother randomly. It would be shocking, unexpected and it could make for a great storyline. If not, you should at least clear the air on whether he is alive or not. After Rick found Lori and Carl and settled down at the prison, wouldn't he think to go look for his parents and/or brother? Unless they lived far away and he most likely considered them dead. Still, Jeff Grimes should make an appearance.

No, he shouldn't. Rick has a brother named Jeff. Like a lot of adult brothers, they didn't live near each other, and it would be dangerous and impractical to go and find him.

MAYBE Jeff is awesome, and there's another group out there led by Jeff Grimes. Or maybe he's an idiot and he sucks. Rick probably talks about Jeff from time to time, but that kind of conversation would be pointless and boring, so that's the kind of thing you don't get to see in the book. Like when Abraham pooped... let me tell you, that guy was pooping all the time.

You will never see Jeff Grimes in this book. Michonne has an ex-husband... that's not a dangling plot thread, that's just back story mentioned about a character.

Fourth, I've heard you say before that Rick will not survive the entire run of the book and the book could carry on with someone else like Michonne. Is this still the case? Any ideas on how much longer he will go on if it is the case, without spoiling too much because I've heard you say before your constantly changing storylines around.

Yes, I would love to write this book long past Rick's death. It seems unrealistic that he would survive all the way to the end, I'm not ruling it out though--maybe this story ends when he dies. Or maybe it doesn't. I'm not going to ever tell you when a character is going to die. That would ruin the fun.

Fifth, this has to do with the TV show, why did you kill off Oscar? He was a great character. What a waste of potential by killing him off.

Oscar was awesome. And Vincent Ward did an amazing job playing him. It's actually a pretty tough thing for me, because characters on the show are often times mapped out to their death before an actor is even hired. So we knew, or at least, were pretty sure and had plans in place to kill Oscar before Vincent was even cast. It was a bummer to lose that guy... just like it's been a bummer to lose all the fantastic actors on the show whose characters have been killed off. I don't mean to sound sappy, but it really does bug me. It's so much easier with the comic.

Anyways, I hope this letter gets into Letter Hacks and you can answer these questions that have been bothering me for a while, need answers, thanks.

Sincerely,
Andrew Mulligan

OK, Kirkman, we're both busy people with better things to do, so let's cut to the chase: Please explain how in the HECK the right side of Carl's head grew back. 'Cause that humungous pic from #83 was pretty clear on showing us that from his eye outward (including a good chunk of THE HAT, which did NOT grow back) was completely gone. How does that work? Thanks, and keep up the good work, love the comic, yadda yadda yadda.

Wendy Bodine
Jamesburg, NJ

This oughta be interesting...

Look again. A lot of people see that hole in Carl's head as going straight back through the back of his head--it actually shot through his eye at an angle, which you can see in that two page spread, see the meat of his head inside the wound? The bullet went in his eye, left out of his temple, and damaged his hat.

Any differences between the exposed bone face Carl has now and the initial wound we saw on that splash, would be due to the work of Doctor Cloyd stopping the bleeding and cleaning the wound so it can heal properly.

Hey guys, love the comic and the show. I'll keep this short and sweet: why are there no dogs? Like, anywhere in either the series or comic. To the best of my recollection there hasn't been a single dog to be seen anywhere. Seriously, wouldn't Rick and co. have run into some dogs by now (for better or for worse)? They were on a farm for christ's sake! Or some bad guys be running with a pack of ill-tempered strays they found. The populous is on the run or zombified, but their dogs, man! What happened to all of their dogs?

Nathaniel

PS I think Carl needs a dog. A Rottweiler.

Okay, fine... dogs... or maybe TIGERS? Is that better?

Kirkman,

I recently became a correction officer in Passaic County and my first day in the jail all I could think about was how I would utilize the jail during the apocalypse, so thank you for that haha... My question is what's going on with the Cutting Room Floor book? I'm dying to read it!!! Thanks.

Jeff Heff

You're not supposed to ask about the Cutting Room Floor ever. EVER!!!!!! But when it's good and ready, we'll resolicit.

I'm very sorry about that. It's been much more difficult to put that book together than I anticipated. So we've pulled it from the schedule and will resolicit it when it's finally done. It's going to be awesome when it comes out, I promise.

Dear Robert and the Skybound crew,

Have you considered making Skybound titles longer than 22 pages? I know 22 pages is the industry standard, but Skybound titles are beyond industry

standard; they are excellent. These books are far superior to anything coming out of Marvel or DC, yet Skybound still sticks to their standards. Why not differentiate the formats of the Skybound titles by giving your readers a little something extra, beyond the excellent stories of course. You can market your books as giving the readers more than what Marvel or DC give them. My local comic shop publishes its percentage of overall sales by each company. Marvel and DC always blow Image out of the water, but Image is always 3rd and hovers around 15 percent of overall sales. This is the time to shake things up; Image seems like it has something special going with all these great new stories, but you need a carrot to lure in new readers. Image has superior writers and when it comes to sci-fi, crime and horror, Marvel and DC don't even come close. I propose extending only Skybound labeled books to 30 pages. As it stands, the story barely moves along at a snail's pace in THE WALKING DEAD and it's just frustrating reading the book month to month. The TPBs are thoroughly enjoyable since it's a bulk of content. When I first started reading TWD in 2008, it took me a while to get into it because the book is over in 10 minutes, then you have to wait another 30 days for 10 more minutes of story.

Greg Taylor

Industry standard (say, Marvel and DC) is 20 pages per issue nowadays, at least for \$2.99. Charging an extra dollar and adding pages wouldn't move the market share number. We'd make more money per issue and perhaps gain ground on dollar share, but with no guarantee that sales will increase. We put out at least 7 books--over 140 pages--a month. That's a new trade's worth of content monthly. We've heard about the issue of not getting enough WALKING DEAD (or INVINCIBLE, etc.)...but everyone works hard to get you issues monthly...and we'd like you to be happy with that. We good?

Also, I'll point out that the 22 page standard isn't just what Marvel and DC does. It's the amount of work days in the average month. Drawing a monthly comic is hopefully done at the rate of a page a day. So 22 work days equals 22 pages. More than that... would just make the books late. So you're getting the same amount of pages no matter what.

You've done a great job of showing us all the lengths people will go to survive in the Zombie Apocalypse but you seem to ignore the ones who would really be in charge in a Zombie Apocalypse: Necrophiliacs. Why haven't Rick and co. run into any Necrophiliacs yet? Are you saving them for the Biggest Bad of the series?

Jason

If you coitus a zombie, is it really necrophilia? Dead means inanimate. But zombies move; they're in a state between life and death. So is it really necrophilia...or some brave new sexual terrain?

Unless you're talking about a zombie with its brains blown out. Because if you're talking about fucking a brain damaged zombie, that shit's foul--and most definitely necrophilia.

No... just... no.

Dear Walking Dead team,

Any plans to put out a graphic novel adaptation of Rise of the Governor? Nothing against the written word, but it would be great to see the Governor's origin story in all its illustrated glory!

Thanks for all your hard work,
Stephen

Nope. If you want that story... you're just going to have to read the novel. The story is specifically designed to work better in novel form--it wouldn't be the same, or as good, as a comic. Try it out--you may love it... then you can try Twilight next!

Dear Kirkman,

I need your help settling a reoccurring argument between a friend and myself. Paul "JESUS" Monroe, is it pronounced Jesus or the Spanish Jesús? I know it's trivial and petty, but a few seconds of your time please. Oh concerning Carl, you've tortured the kid enough; throw Andrea around for a while or something. Best wishes.

H.P.

Andrea will get hers! As for Jesus... it's a nickname he got because of his long hair and beard... so it's the traditional biblical JESUS.

Dear Kirk,

If Negan in #105 is any indication, SOMEONE may have some severe issues with jealousy and women. That's all I'm going to say about that. Moving on, I have a question: is the implication that the cheating wife may leave Negan, go back to their former peasant life with the man they cheated with, and he then won't get "the iron"? Because if that's the case, whoever cheats with these women is seriously not right in the head. ESPECIALLY now, after we see that at least two people have gotten the iron in this community. The most troubling part is that, if these women may leave free and clear, while also sparing their illicit lovers the iron, they sure have some icy hearts by allowing their fellow philanderers to be adorned with a permanent scarlet letter.

Bitches be crazy, I guess.

Mitchell Lenyo
Bloomington, Indiana

"Bitches be crazy?" Let's start at the top of the crazy pyramid and leave it at Negan is fucking crazy.

Yeah, come on, man. There's an awful lot of manipulation and brain washing going on at the Savior's factory... people aren't exactly themselves.

Flame cannot be underestimated in its efficacy against a living foe. Words to live by.

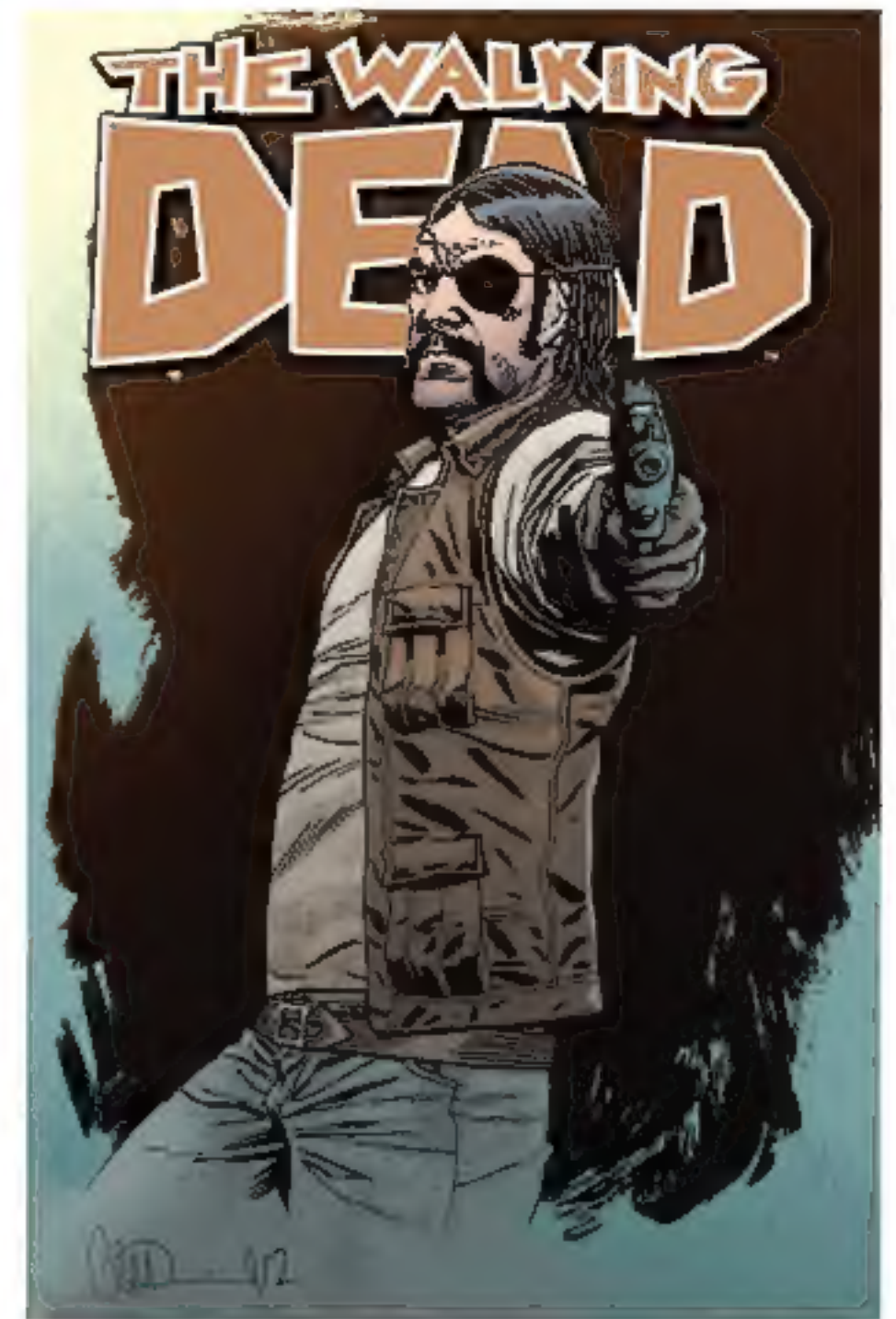
-Sean

Also, next month, we meet Ezekiel. He has a tiger.

Yep! And it's going to be awesome!! I'll see you then!

-Robert Kirkman

DON'T MISS THE NEXT ISSUE!



**THE WALKING DEAD
THE GOVERNOR
SPECIAL**
ON SALE NOW



CLONE #4
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FATALE #12
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THE WALKING DEAD #108
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Question of the Month "WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE COMIC BOOK LOVE STORY?"

"12 REASONS WHY I LOVE HER by JAMIE S. RICH and JOELLE JONES. This is one of the books I list when people ask me what few books would I hand to people who do not read comics. Not only is the story heart-felt, but also the art content and the layout is pleasing to the eye. It reaches beyond sequential art and lightly steps into poetry."

JIMMIE ROBINSON
FIVE WEAPONS, BOMB QUEEN

"TRUE STORY, SWEAR TO GOD: CHANCES ARE... by TOM BELAND. I was really moved and impressed with the sincerity of the storytelling and the delightful clean line artwork."

MICHEL GAGNÉ
ZED: A COSMIC TALE, SAGA OF REX

"Horatio Hellpop and Sundra Peale in NEXUS by MIKE BARON and STEVE RUDE. It's like a Norman Rockwell romance... IN SPACE!"

MITCH GERADS
THE ACTIVITY

FEBRUARY 2013

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In his decade as a professional comics writer, **ANDY DIGGLE** has written for DC, Marvel, and Dark Horse, as well as editing the iconic British comics anthology *2000 AD*. His Vertigo graphic novel *The Losers* was adapted into a feature film in 2010. Currently, he is writing *Doctor Who* for IDW. *SNAPSHOT*, first published in serial for in *Judge Dredd Magazine*, is his first creator-owned work with longtime collaborator Jock.

What are you working on right now?

Today I'm plotting out the opening issues of my *Action Comics* run and my new Dynamite crime series.

What's the best part of your job?

Independence.

What's the worst part of your job?

Zero downtime. Lawrence Kasdan nailed it when he said, "Being a writer is like having homework every night for the rest of your life."

How did you first discover comics?

I can't remember not reading comics. I have two older brothers, so comics were always in the house. The first things I read were *The Beano*, *Asterix* and *Commando Picture Library*. Then I discovered *2000AD* at age 10, and everything changed.

If you weren't working in comics, what would you be doing?

Some other kind of storytelling. Making films or writing novels, probably.

What's the best thing a fan has ever said to you?

"The comic was better."

Who is the biggest influence on your work?

John Wagner.

What is the single work of which you're most proud?

The Losers.

Own up to one of your guilty pleasures.

Cigarettes.

What was the last comic book you bought?

CBLDF Liberty Annual and the *Action Comics Annual*, this week.

If you could be someone else for a day, who would it be?

Forgive the cliché, but I'd be Neil Armstrong. To stand on the Moon and look back at the Earth, where every single person has ever lived and died? How easily we forget what an astonishing achievement that was. And how little we seem to have learned from it as a society.

What are three of the most important things in life to you?

My family, my independence, and doing what I love. Everything else is mere logistics.

What's the strangest thing you have in your house?

My kids.

What makes you laugh?

My kids.

What is one of your favorite places?

Tholt-y-Will Glen, on the Isle of Man.

What music are you listening to these days?

Whatever my wife is listening to.

What is your favorite film of all time?

Impossible to choose between *Jaws*, *Alien* or *Raiders of the Lost Ark*.

Who is your best friend?

I haven't murdered Jock yet.

What is the best advice you've ever received?

To switch off your inner critic while you get the first draft down. Perfectionism kills spontaneity. You fix it in the rewrite.

When was the last time you were truly frightened?

Last time I looked in the mirror.

Who is someone you really admire?

Anyone who devotes their life to the betterment of others. Nurses, teachers, child protection workers. Thankless jobs with lousy pay. They're the unsung heroes of our society.

What would you like to see happen in comics in the next 12 months?

Fewer capes, more capers.

the  word
EXPERIENCE CREATIVITY

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SNAPSHOT #1 (OF 4)



Jake Dobson is your typical nerd; works at the Near-Mint Rhino comic-book store in San Francisco. But when he finds a lost cell phone, he's horrified to discover it's full of snapshots of a murder victim. Suddenly he finds himself hunted by a vengeful hitman who wants his phone back... and Jake in a body bag! And then things start to get "really" complicated... Don't miss the first ever creator-owned thriller from the team behind *THE LOSERS* and *GREEN ARROW: YEAR ONE!*

ZED: A COSMIC TALE



When a cute little alien named ZED demonstrates his invention to the Hierarchy of the Galaxy, something goes wrong - terribly wrong! Before long, ZED's universe is thrown into complete turmoil and our little hero must face nearly insurmountable odds trying to survive and save the very fate of his home world. Imbued with a dark edge, peppered with pure silliness, and wrapped up in a childlike sense of wonder, ZED's adventures will keep readers tickled and captivated from start to finish.

FIVE WEAPONS #1 (OF 5)

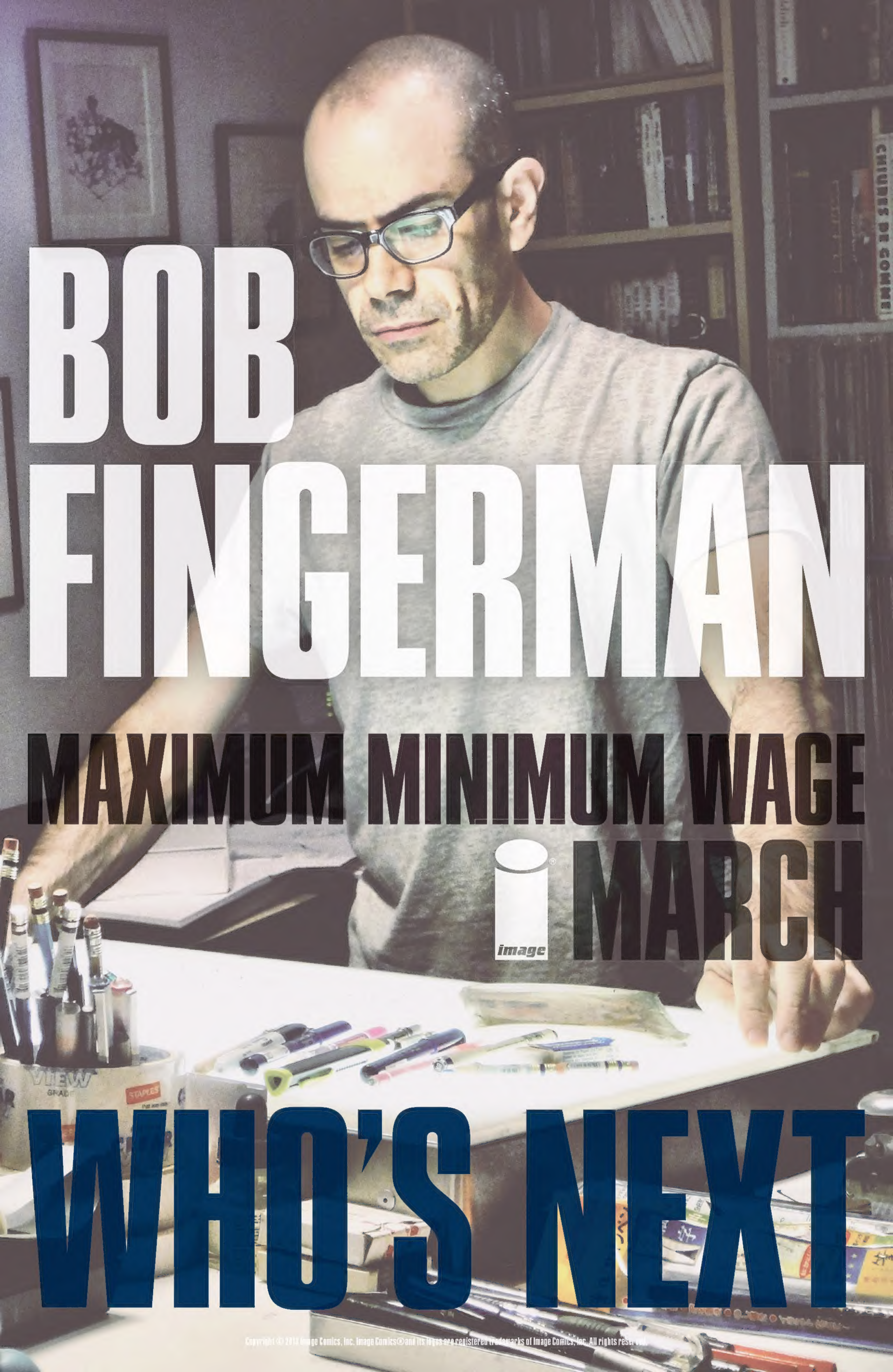


13-year-old Tyler finds himself in a specialized school where assassins send their kids for education and training in one of the five deadly weapons. Tyler doesn't have a weapon or any fighting skills, but he still plans to graduate by beating every weapon master in the school because he has a powerful ability that nobody can match: his razor-sharp mind! JIMMIE ROBINSON twists the insanity of *BOMB QUEEN* in a fun new series that will keep you guessing to the end.

UNCANNY SKULLKICKERS #1



The UNCANNY SKULLKICKERS: Two hard-headed mercenaries kill monsters and cause havoc in their search for money, fame and adventure! A bold new direction! A perfect jumping-on point! A newly added adjective! Our nineteenth issue, but also a new issue №! It's all here, people! Don't make us use more exclamation marks!!



BOB FINGERMAN

MAXIMUM MINIMUM WAGE
MARCH



WHO'S NEXT

